

RHYTHM GOES

Wimbledon 2;

Wycombe Wanderers 0.

THE air of super-efficiency which hovers over Plough-lane, Wimbledon — very much the Highbury of amateur football nowadays—seemed to give Wycombe Wanderers an inferiority complex on Saturday, writes "Argus." Certainly, Wycombe's fall from grace was sudden, unexpected and inexplicable.

Wanderers lost rhythm and reason in this game. They hustled when once they stroked out instinctive passes and looked a hurried, stumbling team compared with the smooth combination which accounted for Dulwich Hamlet and Walthamstow.

The Dons were allowed to dominate the game and goals by Eddie Reynolds in the 46th and 71st minutes earned them their almost traditional win against Wycombe in S.W.19. But Wimbledon were made to sweat. Some fantastic luck kept Wycombe on level terms at half-time after Reynolds and Brian Martin had both hit the visitors' woodwork.

MUFFED CHANCE

Although Wanderers improved considerably in the second half—they could do no other—their forwards lacked any sort of cohesion or thrust and it was left to Charlie Gale, roving upfield from left-half, to fire in the shots which most troubled the agile young home goalkeeper, Mike Kelly.

The game really turned on an incident a few minutes after Reynolds had tapped his first simple goal. Ivor Ashby, who had certainly not disgraced himself as substitute for Dave Thomas, footslogged upfield, drew the enemy fire and slid a fine pass to Holmes. But the big inside-left, who again had an inconsequential game, muffed the easiest of chances.

When Reynolds, who played as well as he talks on Saturday, headed a beauty from Martin's cross, Wycombe were a well beaten side despite their forays in the last 15 minutes.

LAW ON TOP

They lacked the method which had won them their best victories this season. England pivot Roy Law completely mastered Peter James and with Holmes languishing and George Blair fretting and uncertain, Wycombe had to rely on the wings. But Steve Hyde saw little of the ball on the left against international back John Martin and achieved little, while Len Worley gave no hint of the marksmanship which had perplexed Walthamstow.

Worried by the interchanging and speed of the Wimbledon forwards, the overworked Wycombe defence had a bad first half, particularly as goalkeeper Ken Brown, who hurt himself early on, was unable to clear the ball properly.